

DESCRIPTION AND TRAVEL

Duxbury Shipper, Thursday, August 14, 1977

WHAT IS DUXBURY?

Duxbury was the Old Colony's first new town outside of Plymouth. Among its founders were Myles Standish, John Alden and William Brewster. It was named for Duxborough Hall, seat of the Standish family in

England. The Parish Church was organized in 1932 when the town was incorporated. In the 19th century the sprawling farming community was enlivened by bustling shipyards and docks. Har-

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merchants and shipbuilders made Duxbury one of America's leading seaports, and Lloyd's of London listed

Duxbury's Ezra Weston as the largest shipping magnate in America.

Still standing are several second generation Pilgrim houses in Duxbury, especially the John Alden House, open to visitors during the summer months. Other historic sites include the Old Burving

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Ground where Capt. Myles Standish and John and Priscilla Alden are reputedly buried, and the Standish Monument which affords an excellent view of the countryside, the bay, and distant Plymouth across the water. The King Caesar

House, owned by Ezra Weston of shipbuilding fame in the hey-day of Duxbury, now serves as the headquarters of the Duxbury Rural & Historical Society. A fine example of the Federal Period architecture, it is distinguished by the superb French wallpapers in the 2 front parlors, and is graced with

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many early Duxbury portraits and memorabilia. In front of the house stands the massive stone wharf at which the Westons once outfitted their ships, and along the shore nearby can be seen the vestiges of the spar-soak and ropewalk, part of the 100-acre Weston shipyard on either shore of the Bluefish River. The house is open weekdays (except Mondays) during the summer.

(from the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce booklet)